

**METHODS, COMPUTER SYSTEMS, AND COMPUTER READABLE MEDIA
FOR CONTROLLING THE STATUS OF NETWORK ADDRESS SPACE**

ABSTRACT

5 Methods, computer systems, and computer readable media provide for automated
control of the status of network address space. Blocks of networking address space
assigned to a network may be allocated from a free status to a new status based upon a
request to allocate a particular size block. Blocks of networking address space assigned
to a network that have been allocated to a new status may be deallocated to return to a
10 free status based upon a request to deallocate the chosen block. Blocks of networking
address space assigned to a network that have been allocated and otherwise manipulated
such as through a lend from another network may be reclaimed for the original network
upon a request to reclaim the chosen block.